Going forward with ICANN - The African Region Perspective

on

Policy Development for ICT and Internet-based Economy

Wednesday 28th March – 0900-1030

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AFRICA and ICANN from 2007

Common Goal

To get the African communities involved in the ICANN Process
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- **SITUATION (at a Glance)**
  1. National ICT Policy Development – key to Internet-based business development:
    - Varied levels achieved – some countries have ICT Policies in place
    - Lack of awareness-some are not officially aware of developments in ICT applications
    - Not a priority (in many cases)
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- **SITUATION (at a Glance)** (continued)

2. Human Capacity, Infrastructure and Financial constraints: these *issues are common.*

3. **Visibility** – ICT sector is perceived to be small-scale business ventures therefore interactions with ICANN are limited to a few aspirants (eg. academics, techies and volunteers)
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MAIN FACTORS

- Perceptions and changes in business and life styles
- Trust and confidence – difficult to carry out business transactions
- Reluctance to invest time and resources in a rapidly changing business environment due to emergence of new applications and technologies
- Regulations (who is actually responsible in the development of the Policy?)
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**INTERVENTIONS** (what is being done?...)

- ccTLD Managers and GAC members are *instrumental* in informing their respective Govts on Policy Development.
- NGOs are being seen as the *best practice* in the management of ccTLDs
- Communication Regulation Authorities and Ministries are active in the *development of ICT Policies* – assumed role in many cases.
Voluntary (Informal) Groups/Individuals are engaged in raising awareness and dissemination of developments that are taking place. Some success stories in some countries is the positive indicator.

- Some Heads of Governments have taken the initiative to promote the development of ICTs in their sub-regions
Thank You!

Surge forward with ICANN...